

BAG/BED ASSEMBLY

CROSS REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS: None

Statement as to rights to inventions made under Federally sponsored research and development: Not Applicable

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention.

This invention relates to a bag/bed assembly, that is a portable bedding, that when stored according to the methods of the present invention, is a seating apparatus.

2. Background Information

Various forms and designs of seating devices are readily available. As is various forms and designs of beds. Further, and becoming more popular, are various forms of beds which are marketed as portable bedding. One such form of portable bedding is an air mattress often comprising of a plastic or vinyl cover, and a mechanical means for delivering air to the cover, before the apparatus is suitable for sleeping upon. This is not convenient, and is relatively cumbersome. Further, the mechanical means often requires a source for electricity which may not be available.

The bag/bed assembly according to the present invention departs from the conventional portable bedding concepts and designs, and in doing so, provides an assembly primarily developed for the purpose of providing a portable seating and bedding apparatus without the requirement of either mechanical means or power source. It should be appreciated that there exists a continuing need for a new and improved assembly that is a portable seating and bedding apparatus. In this regard, the present invention substantially fulfills this need.

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Said first layer, when storing said second layer, serves as a seating apparatus. When you remove the second layer having the third layer contained therein from the first layer, the second layer is spaced out in a fully open position, wherein the second layer has a substantially rectangular configuration that serves as a bed.

The characteristics and advantages of the invention are further sufficiently referred to in connection with the accompanying drawings, which represent one embodiment. After considering this example, skilled persons will understand that variations may be made without departing from the principles disclosed.

Fig. 1 illustrates a perspective view of the preferred embodiment of the present invention, a bag/bed assembly, where the second and third layers are received by the first layer.

Fig. 2 illustrates a perspective view of the assembly of Fig. 1, where the closure of the first layer is open showing the second layer therein.

Fig. 3 illustrates a perspective view of the assembly of Fig. 1, where a portion of the second layer has been removed through the closure of the first layer.

Fig. 4 illustrates a top view of the second layer (having the third layer contained therein) of the assembly of Fig. 1, removed from the first layer and forming a rectangular configuration.

Fig. 5 illustrates a perspective view of the second layer (having the third layer contained therein) being prepared for storing within the first layer.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Figs. 1-3 illustrate a preferred embodiment of a bag/bed assembly 1 made in accordance with the present invention. The assembly 1 includes a first layer 10, a second layer 20, and a third layer (not shown), which third layer is contained entirely within the second layer 20. The first layer 10 being formed by a first side 10A and a second side 10B. As best shown in Fig. 2, the first side 10A having a first edge 13A, and the second side 10B having a second edge 13B, said edges 13A, 13B forming a closure 13 disposed at the upper portion of the first layer 10.

The first layer 10 further includes a hollow interior cavity 12 formed on the inner sides of the first side 10A and the second side 10B of the first layer 10. The closure 13 defining an access opening to the cavity 12 within the first layer 10, said access opening adapted to receive the second layer 20 as will be further discussed. As best shown in Fig. 4, the second layer 20 when spaced out in a fully open position, has a substantially rectangular configuration, and is provided with corners 20A, 20B, 20C, and 20D.

The cavity 12 is formed on the inner side of the first and second sides 10A, 10B of the first layer 10, and is easily accessible through the closure 13 of the first layer 10. The closure 13 includes a fastening means which is preferably a Velcro. RTM - type material having a strip of loop material (not shown) and a matching strip of hook material (not shown). For example, the strip of loop material may be positioned on the outer side of the first edge 13A, and the hook material transversely positioned along the inner side of the second edge 13B. It should be noted that the hook-and-loop materials can be interchangeably positioned. It is further understood by one skilled in the art that the fastening means of the closure 13 may further consist of any other fastening means common in the art, such as a zipper, snaps, buttons, and the like.

The cavity 12 receives the second layer 20 for storage of the second layer 20. The second layer 20 is then secured in position within the first layer 10 by said fastening means of the closure 13. Referring to Fig. 2, the first edge 13A of the first side 10A is fastened to the second edge 13B of the second side 10B thereby closing the closure 13 as best shown in Fig. 1.

As shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the second layer 20 is removed from the first layer 10 by separating the edges 13A and 13B thereby opening the closure 13, exposing the second layer 20. Once exposed, the second

layer 20 is accessible, and may be removed from the cavity 12 of the first layer 10 as shown in Fig. 3. As shown in Fig. 4, once the second layer 20 is removed, the second layer 20 is spaced out in a fully open position, wherein the second layer 20 is shown having a substantially rectangular configuration.

In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the third layer contained entirely within the second layer 20, is a foam-type material, preferably a shredded foam-fill material. Such foam material of the third layer further suitable to conform to the shape of the second layer 20 when the second layer is not stored within the first layer 10. Such foam material of the third layer further suitable to conform to the shape of the first layer 10 when storing the second layer 20 therein. As such, the third layer is a foam padding inside the second layer when the second layer 20 is used as a bed; and when the second layer 20 is stored within the first layer 10, is a foam padding for when the first layer 10 is used as a seating apparatus. It should be understood that the thickness of the second layer 20 is dependent upon the volume of foam material forming the third layer.

The method for folding and storing the second layer 20 within the cavity 12 of the first layer 10, comprises generally the steps of diagonally folding the second layer 20 and inserting the folded second layer 20 within the cavity 12 of the first layer 10. The folding starts by diagonally folding the second layer 20 into a substantially triangular configuration, by folding said corner 20B on top of corner 20D forming new folded corners 21A and 22A, as shown in Fig. 5.

In the preferred embodiment, either said new folded corner 21A or said new folded corner 22A of the folded second layer 20 is then slidably inserted into the hollow interior cavity 12 of the first layer 10 by separating the first and second edges 13A, 13B, thereby opening the closure 13 and inserting one of the said new folded corners. When inserting one of the said new folded corners, insert approximately one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the folded second layer 20 into the cavity 12 of the first layer 10, so that approximately one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the folded layer 20 remains exposed and the balance of the folded second layer 20 is within the cavity 12 of the first layer 10. Next, rotate the said exposed portion of the second layer 20 approximately 90 degrees thereby in effect, rotating the entire folded second layer 20 said approximately 90 degrees. The remaining balance of the folded second layer 20 is then inserted into the cavity 12 of the first layer 10.

Once the second layer 20 is completely inserted within the cavity 12, the first side 10A and second side 10B will enclose the now folded balance of the second layer 20. Once fully enclosed, the second layer 20 is secured in position within the first layer 10 by connecting the first edge 13A of the first side 10A to the second edge 13B of the second side 10B and applying the fastening means previously described. The flexible and resilient nature of the material construction of the hollow interior cavity 12 of the first layer 10 causes a friction fit between the second layer 20 and the inner side of the first layer 10, causing the second layer 20 to be retained therein. When the second layer 20 is received within the first layer 10, the second layer 20 completely fills the cavity 12 of the first layer 10. The second layer 20 is now stored and the first layer is a seating apparatus as shown in Fig. 1.

A user may obviously use any number of folding steps in order to insert the second layer 20 in the cavity 12 of the first layer 10. What is critical is that in storage, the second layer 20, when stored within the first layer 10, completely fills the cavity 12 of the first layer 10.

In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the first layer 10 is constructed of a cloth material, preferably corduroy; however, any cloth, vinyl, cotton material obvious to one skilled in the art would be acceptable. Similarly, the second layer 20 is constructed of a cloth material, preferably a cotton material.

Although the description above contains many specificities, these should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention but as merely providing illustrations of some of the presently preferred embodiments of this invention. For example, it should be obvious that the shape of the first layer 10 may be of any shape, not merely the shape as displayed in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. Likewise, the dimensions of the first and second layers 10 and 20 may vary. As previously stated, when the second layer 20 is received in the first layer 10, the second layer 20 completely fills the hollow interior cavity 12 of the first layer 10. As such, if the size of the hollow interior cavity 12 of the first layer 10 is increased, the size of the second layer 20 will increase accordingly.

Thus the scope of the invention should be determined by the appended claims in the formal application and their legal equivalents, rather than by the examples given.